

I Claim:-

5. 1. A method of installing a first self-contained data handling application to operate with a second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application having at least one call routine which is executed when the second data handling application is operated, the method comprising:

10. a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present,
b) generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application, which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application.

15. 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein step b) comprises creating source code defining the software routine for automatic implementation by the second data handling application.

20. 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the software routine controls a data modification operation by the second data handling application in dependence upon data stored in the first data handling application.

25. 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the call routine is only implemented by the second data handling application under certain predetermined conditions.

30. 5. A database system comprising first and second self-contained data handling applications, the second data handling application having at least one call routine which is executed when the second data handling application is operated, the call routine causing a software routine provided by, and utilizing, the first data handling application, to be executed.

35. 6. A system according to claim 5, wherein the software routine controls a data modification operation by the second data handling application in dependence upon data stored in the first data handling application.

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7. A system according to claim 5, wherein the call routine is only implemented by the second data handling application under certain predetermined conditions.

8. A computer program product including code defining a
5 first self-contained data handling application for use with a second self-contained data handling application having at least one call routine which is executed when the second data handling application is operated; and code defining installation software for:

10 a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present,
b) generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application, which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application.

15 9. A computer program product according to claim 8, wherein step b) comprises creating a source code defining the software routine for automatic execution by the second data handling application.

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